(c) the steps taken to fully assess and explore the deposits?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) Geological Survey of India has established a small gold deposit and located a few gold prospects in Chitradurga district, Karnataka in recent years, but not gold prospect has been found in Sandur district so far by GSI.

(b) The gold deposit has been established in G.R. Halli, South Block. The prospects located in Chitradurga District are Chikkanahali, Gonur Kotomaradi, M.N. Halli, Kunchiganahalu and Honnemaradi. In South Block of G.R. Halli estimated gold ore reserves are of the order of 0.6 million tonnes of 4 gm/tonne. Developmental mining is being carried out by Huti Gold Mines Ltd.

(c) The exploration through drilling and pitting and trenching, geochemical and geophysical methods is continuing to identify the probable reserves and grade of gold ore.

Posts reserved for SC/ST/OBC

3331. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH KALYAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reserved posts meant for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other backward communities have been filled up during the last 3 years in the Ministry of Industry;

(b) whether any backlog of posts reserved for them remains still unfilled;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the backlog of posts reserved for them is expected to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Requisition for nominating candidates to these posts has been sent to Department of Personnel and Training. Nominations of qualified candidates are still awaited from them.

(d) The backlog vacancies shall be cleared as and when eligible candidates are nominated by the Department of Personnel and Training.

Revamped Public Distribution System in Manipur

3332. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that out of thirty two blocks in the State of Manipur only twenty two have received the Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS); and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and how soon will these be covered?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Only 22 blocks of Manipur are covered under Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS). At present there is no proposal to extend the RPDS areas.

Foreign Exchange earned by Tobacco Products

3333. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of foreign exchange earned by different tobacco products during the last four years;

(b) the break-up thereof year-wise and product-wise;